

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01428 241332Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-10 /021 W
-----039699 241333Z /53

P 241135Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8229

UNCLAS LUSAKA 1428

FOR PGM/RC

FOR VOA/PA, FOR PGM/PP

STATE FOR AF, AF/EX AND AF/S

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

BOTH ZAMBIA DAILIES APRIL 24 GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO REUTER REPORTS ON SOLARZ WASHINGTON PRESS CONFERENCE. THE ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL LED ITS FOREIGN PAGE WITH THE HEADING "US FIRMS MAY BE BARRED TO INVEST IN SA" WHILE THE TIMES OF ZAMBIA LEAD STORY WAS HEADLINED "US INVESTORS TO BE BANNED IN PRETORIA?" THERE WAS NO EDITORIAL COMMENT.

ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KENNETH KAUNDA'S U.S. VISIT WAS OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED OVER THE WEEKEND. PAPERS, HOWEVER, GAVE IT VERY LITTLE COVERAGE TODAY, AND THERE IS NO EDITORIAL COMMENT.

IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS, THE MAIL APRIL 24 AGAIN COMMENTED ON THE INEVITABILITY OF AN EAST-WEST CONFRONTATION IN SOUTHER AFRICA IF THE WEST DOES NOT REMOVE "TINPOT DICTATORS LIKE SMITH".

"DESPITE THE OUTWARD EFFORTS ON THE PART OF THE WESTERN
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COUNTRIES, NOTABLY BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO DEFUSE THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, EVERYTHING IS POINTING TO AN INEVITABLE MILITARY CONFRONTATION IN THIS REGION AND A GHASTLY RACIAL WAR," THE MAIL SAID IN AN EDITORIAL.

IT SAID THE VANCE/OWEN TRIP TO SOUTHERN AFRICA HARDLY

ROUSED ANY HOPES OF PEACE. "IF ANYTHING, THE TRIP
HEIGHTENED THE FEARS OF A RACIAL WAR WITH ALL ITS HORRORS."

THE NEWSPAPER ACCUSED THE WEST OF "PLAYING FOR TIME OVER
RHODESIA" AND CHARGED THAT THE WEST DOES NOT WANT TO TAKE
ANY ACTION WHICH WILL REMOVE SMITH FROM POWER AND
PREPARE THE WAY FOR SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF
RHODESIA AS A WHOLE.

BECAUSE THEY (THE WESTERN COUNTRIES) ARE NOT WILLING TO
REMOVE SMITH FROM POWER, RHODESIA WILL SOON BECOME THE
BATTLEGROUND FOR A RACIAL WAR OF FRIGHTENING
PROPORTIONS. THE WEST HAVE IN THE PAST SUCCEEDED TO
DESTROY DICTATORS MORE POWERFUL THAN MR. VORSTER OF
SOUTH AFRICA AND SMITH. THEIR FAILURE IF NOT REFUSAL
TO DESTROY TINPOT DICTATORS LIKE SMITH WILL LEAD
SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE WORLD TO A RACIAL AND IDEOLOGICAL
WAR PERHAPS OF MOST SAVAGE PROPORTIONS AND DIMENSIONS,"
SAID THE MAIL EDITORIAL. ITEM ICA LUSAKA.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN INVESTMENT, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 24 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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